

CAPSULE SUMMARY

BA-1039

407-409 Jefferson Avenue

East Towson, Baltimore County

Circa 1880

Private

The twin dwelling at 407-409 Jefferson Avenue was constructed circa 1880 in the East Towson neighborhood of Baltimore County. The history of East Towson dates from the purchase of one-and-a-quarter acres of land by Daniel Harris in September 1853. This is believed to be the first documented African-American landholding in Towson, and is among the oldest such ethnic enclave in Baltimore County. Further, manumitted slaves and/or descendents of former slaves, many of who were owned by Charles Ridgely, populated the neighborhood. Hampered by the low economic status of the residents, development in the 19th century was slow, increasing after the turn of the 20th century. The setting of the property, building styles, and construction materials were guided by the limited economic status of the residents and their desire to establish a neighborhood of their own without the assistance of white architects, builders, and craftsmen. By 1927, the community was ninety-five percent improved with single-family dwellings, social buildings, a school, and religious structures. Many of the current homeowners and tenants living in the neighborhood are descendents of the first African-American residents.

The vernacular dwelling is set on a random rubble stone foundation, the building rises two stories in height and is four bays in width. Built as a twin dwelling, each house is two bays wide presenting a continuous façade. However, the twin dwelling is visually separated by different cladding materials, with vinyl siding on the southern half and asbestos shingles on the northern half. Both the south and the north dwellings feature a single-leaf, panel-and-light door with a 1/1 vinyl replacement window at the first story. Likewise, each has two 1/1 vinyl replacement windows at the second story with square-edged surrounds. The southern dwelling has a front-gabled portico that was rebuilt with replacement metal supports and a metal balustrade. The northern half features a one-story, three-bay wide front porch with a shed roof and square post supports. The dwellings are united under a side gable roof with asphalt shingles and share the central interior brick chimney.

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☐
no ☐

Property Name: Tomes House Inventory Number: BA-1039
Address: 407-409 Jefferson Avenue City: Towson Zip Code: 21204
County: Baltimore USGS Topographic Map: Towson
Owner: NHS Baltimore LLC Is the property being evaluated a district? ☐ yes
Tax Parcel Number: 123 Tax Map Number: 70A Tax Account ID Number: 0920550120
Project: Renovations to Tomes House Agency: Balto County Office of Community Conserv
Site visit by MHT Staff: ☒ no ☐ yes Name: _____ Date: _____
Is the property located within a historic district? ☐ yes ☒ no

If the property is within a district

District Inventory Number: _____

NR-listed district ☐ yes Eligible district ☐ yes District Name: _____

Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ☐ yes ☐ no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ☐

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)

Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ☐ yes ☒ no

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Maryland Historical Trust

Description of Property and Justification: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)

Significance Summary:

This duplex house, constructed circa 1868, is located at 407-409 Jefferson Avenue in the historically African American community of East Towson. The East Towson area has been associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history, specifically the mid to late 19th century development of an African-American neighborhood in a predominately white community. It is located on property once owned by Benjamin Payne, a prominent citizen of Towson. Payne owned a great deal of land in the north area of Towson and made his fortune in the hotel business as the owner of the Towson Hotel. He was also a Judge of the Orphans Court in Baltimore County. Upon his death, his extensive holdings were surveyed and divided into different lots that would eventually be sold or leased. David McConkey, a Pennsylvania businessman with ties to Baltimore, purchased land from Payne in 1855. McConkey leased part of the land to Henry Alt, a stonemason of German descent, in 1861. Alt completed the purchase with McConkey's heirs in 1869. Alt constructed a single-family house and this duplex, presumably as an income generating property. With the naming of Towson as the seat of Baltimore County, the area grew quickly and attracted many new businesses and residents. The Alt family owned the property until 1920 when it was sold to the Davage family. The Tomes family eventually purchased the property in

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ☐ Eligibility not recommended ☒

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Comments: _____


Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

4/26/2010
Date

N/A
Reviewer, NR Program

Date

201001239
201002128

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Continuation Sheet No. 1

BA-1039

1946 and it stayed in the family until 2007. Although the Tomes house was one of the earliest houses erected in East Towson, it was not constructed by any of the early African American settlers of the area.

Because of its deteriorated state, altered interior and exterior, and loss of historic integrity, this property no longer retains any of the features necessary to convey a historic context. There is not any known association with any notable resident of East Towson and it does not represent early housing constructed by the African American community. Therefore it is recommended that the property at 407-409 Jefferson Avenue not be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A, B and C. The property was not evaluated under Criteria D.

Historical Background:

The Tomes House is located in the Ninth Election District of Baltimore County in a neighborhood known as East Towson. The history of East Towson dates from the purchase of one-and-a-quarter acres of land by Daniel Harris in September 1853. This is believed to be the first documented African-American landholder in Towson, and is among the oldest such ethnic enclaves in Baltimore County. Further, manumitted slaves and/or descendents of former slaves, many of who were owned by Charles Ridgely, populated the neighborhood. Hampered by the low economic status of the residents, development in the 19th century was slow, increasing after the turn of the 20th century. The setting of the property, building styles, and construction materials were guided by the limited economic status of the residents and their desire to establish a neighborhood of their own without the assistance of white architects, builders, and craftsmen. By 1927, the community was ninety-five percent improved with single-family dwellings, social buildings, a school, and religious structures. Many of the current homeowners and tenants living in the neighborhood are descendents of the first African-American residents.¹

Much of the land that East Towson now occupies once belonged to Benjamin Payne who was a prominent local citizen. Payne apparently owed much of his financial success to his hotel that he built which was originally called the Black Bear Tavern; later it became Ady's Hotel. He also served as a Judge of the Orphans Court for Baltimore County. In 1853, he offered some of his land on the east side of York Road as a possible site for the proposed Baltimore County courthouse. Payne's offer was not accepted, and the 1877 atlas shows that his lands ran all the way eastward to the present Black and Decker property.² In 1855, Payne conveyed over eighteen acres to David McConkey, a Pennsylvania businessman with local ties.³ He had several partners and they leased multiple parcels to various people. Henry Alt, a stone mason from Germany, entered into a lease agreement in 1861 with McConkey and his partners.⁴ He constructed a single-family home, presumably for himself, and an additional duplex. Because Towson was named as the County seat in 1851, it grew rapidly and attracted many people to the area in search of work. Alt probably intended for the property to be a rental. Alt's buildings and his eighteen acres are depicted as "H. Ault" on the Towsontown plate in the 1877 Atlas of Baltimore County.⁵ The duplex is depicted on the 1898 Atlas of Baltimore County⁶ as well as the 1915 Atlas.⁷ The Sanborn Fire Insurance map of 1910 also shows the building as a two-story frame building with a center partition.⁸ The 1918 District 9 tax assessment for Baltimore County attributes a 30' x 14' "double house" to Mary Alt, presumably an heir of Henry Alt, in addition to their primary residence.⁹ Henry Alt had died on May 6, 1890.¹⁰ The Alt family sold the house in 1920 to George W and M. Margaret Gwynn Davage who appears to have occupied the main dwelling.¹¹ The double house was rented to two families, one of whom was named Tomes. They later purchased the property in 1946.¹² The property stayed in the Tomes family until 2007 and throughout its history continued to serve a multi family rental property.

Architectural Description:

Exterior Description:

The Tomes House at 407-409 Jefferson Avenue is situated on the west side of Jefferson Avenue close to the intersection of Jefferson Avenue and Towsontown Boulevard. The main two-story block of the Tomes House was built ca. 1868. A two-story addition was added to the rear of the structure sometime after 1918, which might have

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Continuation Sheet No. 2

BA-1039

been done to accommodate more modern kitchen and bathroom facilities. It is situated on a concrete block foundation unlike the original section, which rests on a random rubble stone foundation. The side gable roof is mostly covered in asphalt shingles and there is a central interior brick chimney, which has started to deteriorate. Wood shingles cover about 80% of the structure, however, there are boards missing from the southwestern elevation of the structure. The building is four bays wide although there are no longer any windows or doors in the structure. Plywood covers the openings. Each side of the building has its own outside cellar entrance, which is located at each far corner of the western elevation. The main block of the northern and southern elevations contain no windows. The northern elevation of the rear addition is two bays wide and the western elevation of the main block appears to be one bay wide. The western façade of the rear addition is two bays wide. The western façade of the main block is deteriorated to the point that it is difficult to discern how many openings were there. The southern elevation of the rear addition is also badly deteriorated that openings are also difficult to determine.

Interior Description:

No interior walls remain to divide the structure into a duplex. There are boards left from the original framing of the dividing wall but it is completely open between the northern and southern unit. The floors are also missing boards and are difficult to navigate. The central brick chimney structure remains and a small winder staircase is situated on either side to allow passage to the second floor. The second floor was not safely accessible due to the deterioration of the floors. There are no interior architectural elements that survive, all of the windows, frames, doors, fixtures and molding have been removed basically leaving a shell.

Assessment:

The Tomes House was once one of the few multi family units constructed in the East Towson area. It is also one of the oldest, dating to the 1860's. The houses in East Towson derive their significance from an association with a community largely developed and occupied by African American families. Henry Alt, a German stonemason, constructed this duplex in addition to another single-family residence. An African American family did not own it until the 1920's, which sets it apart from the other properties in the community that derive their significance from an association with the historically African American settlement. Therefore it is recommended that the property at 407-409 Jefferson Avenue does not qualify for eligibility under Criteria A. Although Henry Alt and his family were early residents of East Towson they did not significantly contribute to the development of the area. The other individuals associated with the property are representative of the community's occupants and not of outstanding importance. Therefore it is recommended that the property does not qualify for eligibility under Criteria B. Although this is probably one of the only structures in East Towson designed for multi family occupancy that still stands, it no longer retains any interior or exterior architectural features that convey this use. The interior walls have been removed so that any resemblance to a duplex no longer remains intact. The doors, windows, exterior entryway, and siding have been removed and the materials that remain are in a deteriorated condition. There are also holes in the walls that open the house to the elements. Because this house no longer retains any elements of a duplex nor does it retain any materials or architectural features that convey its historic context, it is recommended that the property does not qualify for eligibility under Criteria C.

It is recommended that the property at 407-409 Jefferson Avenue in Towson is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A, B or C. The property was not evaluated under Criteria D.

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Continuation Sheet No. 3

BA-1039

Endnotes

- 1 Baltimore County Historic Inventory.
- 2 Baltimore County Historic Inventory
- 3 Baltimore County Land and Will Records. Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Maryland: HMF 12:527.
- 4 Baltimore County Land and Will Records. Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Maryland: HMF 33:50.
- 5 Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland (Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877)
- 6 *Map of Baltimore County*. Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1898.
- 7 *Map of Baltimore County*. Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.
- 8 Enoch Pratt Free Library, Bell & Howell Information and Learning's Digital Sanborn Maps, April 1910, Towson, Sheet 4.
- 9 Baltimore County Tax Account Book, Baltimore County, Maryland, 1918, Election District 9, microfilm owned by Office of Planning, Towson.
- 10 Enoch Pratt Free Library, *Baltimore Sun Historical Archive*, Baltimore, Maryland, Baltimore Sun, May 7, 1890 p.2
- 11 Ancestry.com. *United States 1930 Federal Census* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2004. District 9, 12B
- 12 Baltimore County Land and Will Records. Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Maryland: JWB 1521:69.

Virginia Ave

Tomes House BA-1039
407-409 Jefferson Avenue, Towson
Baltimore County

Jefferson Ave

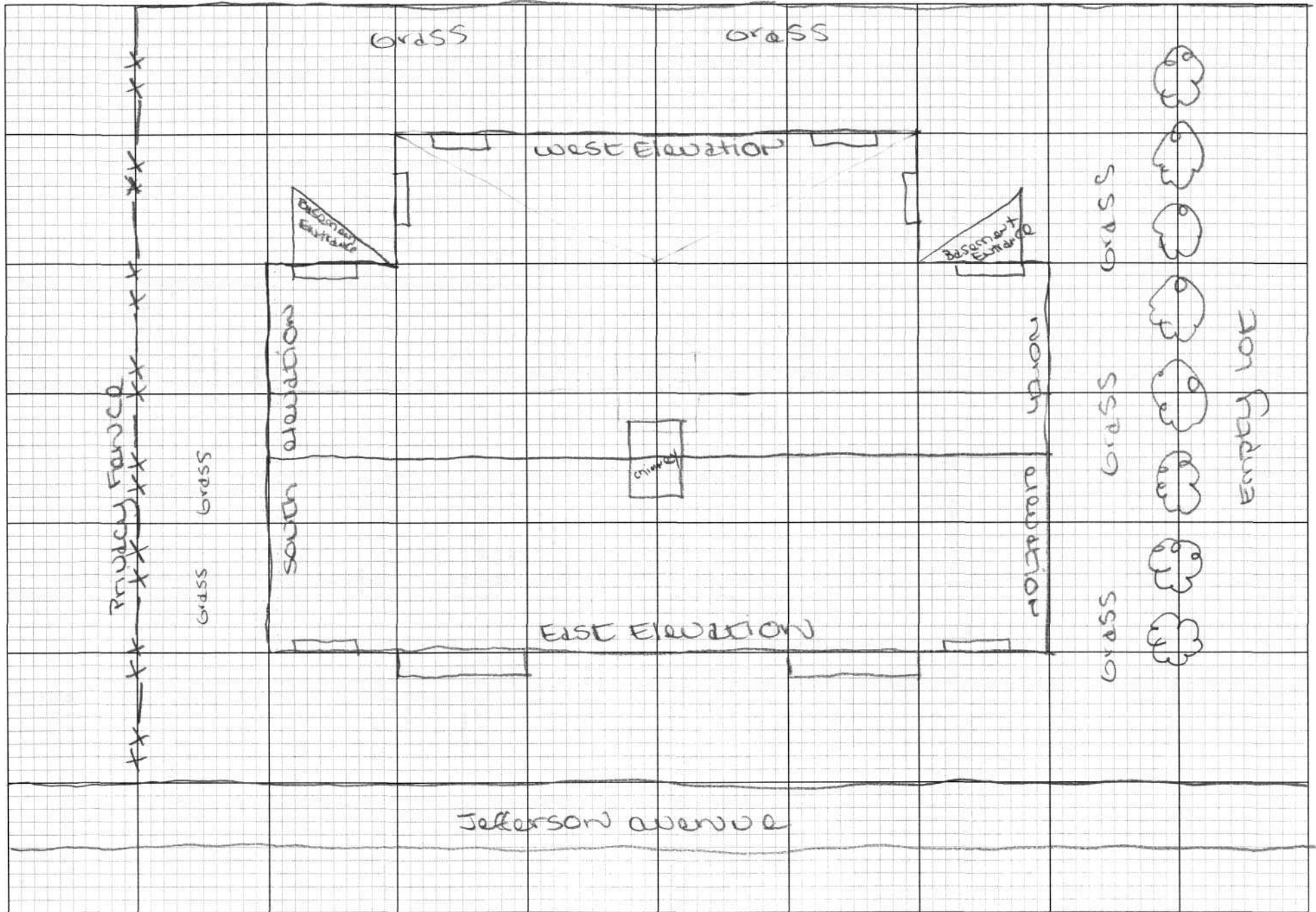
Lennox Ave

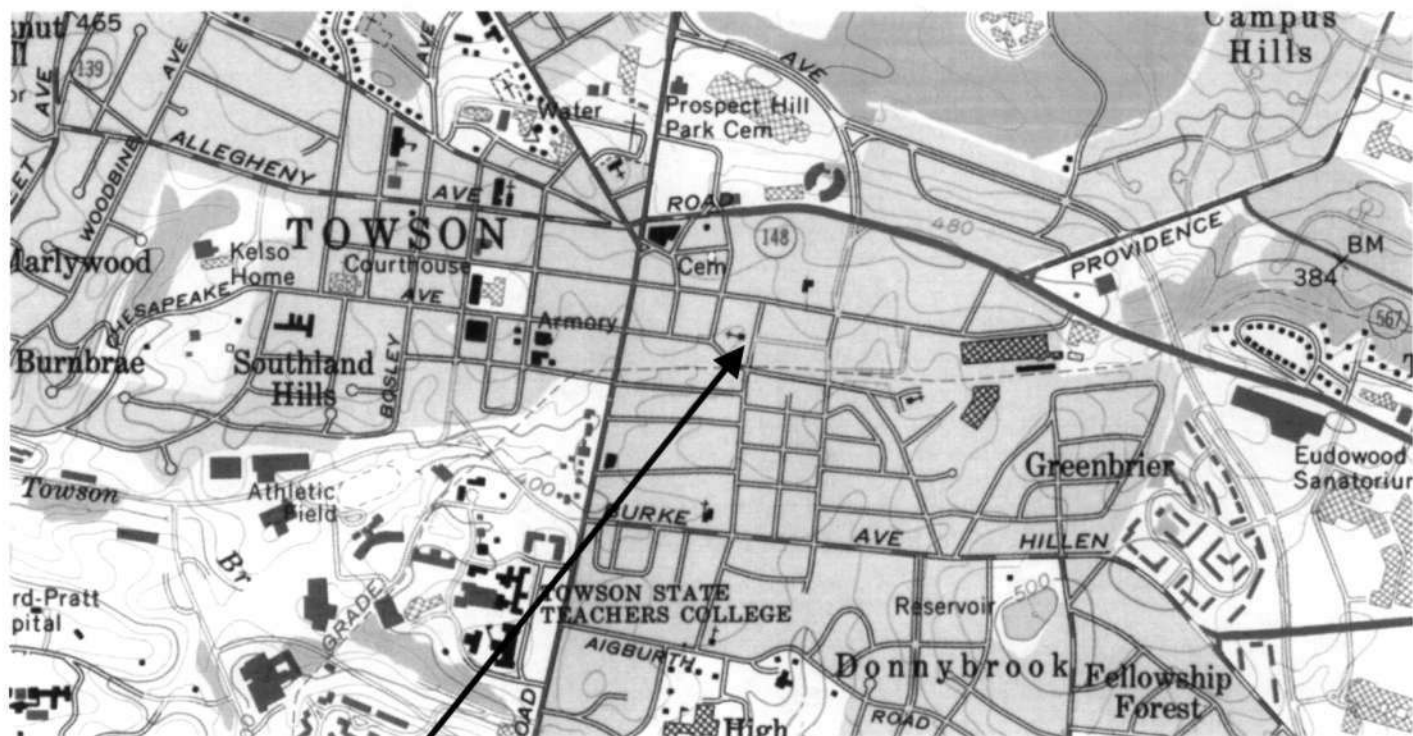
Towsontown Blvd



Resource sketch map

BA-1039





Tomes House (BA-1039)
407-409 Jefferson Avenue
Towson, Baltimore County, Maryland
Towson Quad, USGS Topographic Map



RTZ HQ DOMXDRG NNN A 0044

BA-1039

TOMES HOUSE

407-409 Jefferson Avenue, Towson

Baltimore County, MD

Baltimore County Office of Planning

12/2009

MD SHPO

Northern elevation, looking south

#1 of 10



RTZ NO. 20090101 1111 11 1111

BA-1039
TOMES HOUSE
407-409 Jefferson Avenue, Towson
Baltimore County, MD
Baltimore County Office of Planning
12/2009
MD SHPO
Southwest corner, looking east
2 of 10



PTZ NO MONITOR HHH P 0044

BA-1039

Tomás House

407-409 Jefferson Avenue, Towson

Baltimore County, MD

Baltimore County Office of Planning

12/2009

MD SHPO

Southern elevation, looking west

3 of 10



RTZ NO. 000000000000-1 0000

BA-1039

TOMAS HOUSE

407-409 Jefferson Avenue, Towson

Baltimore County, MD

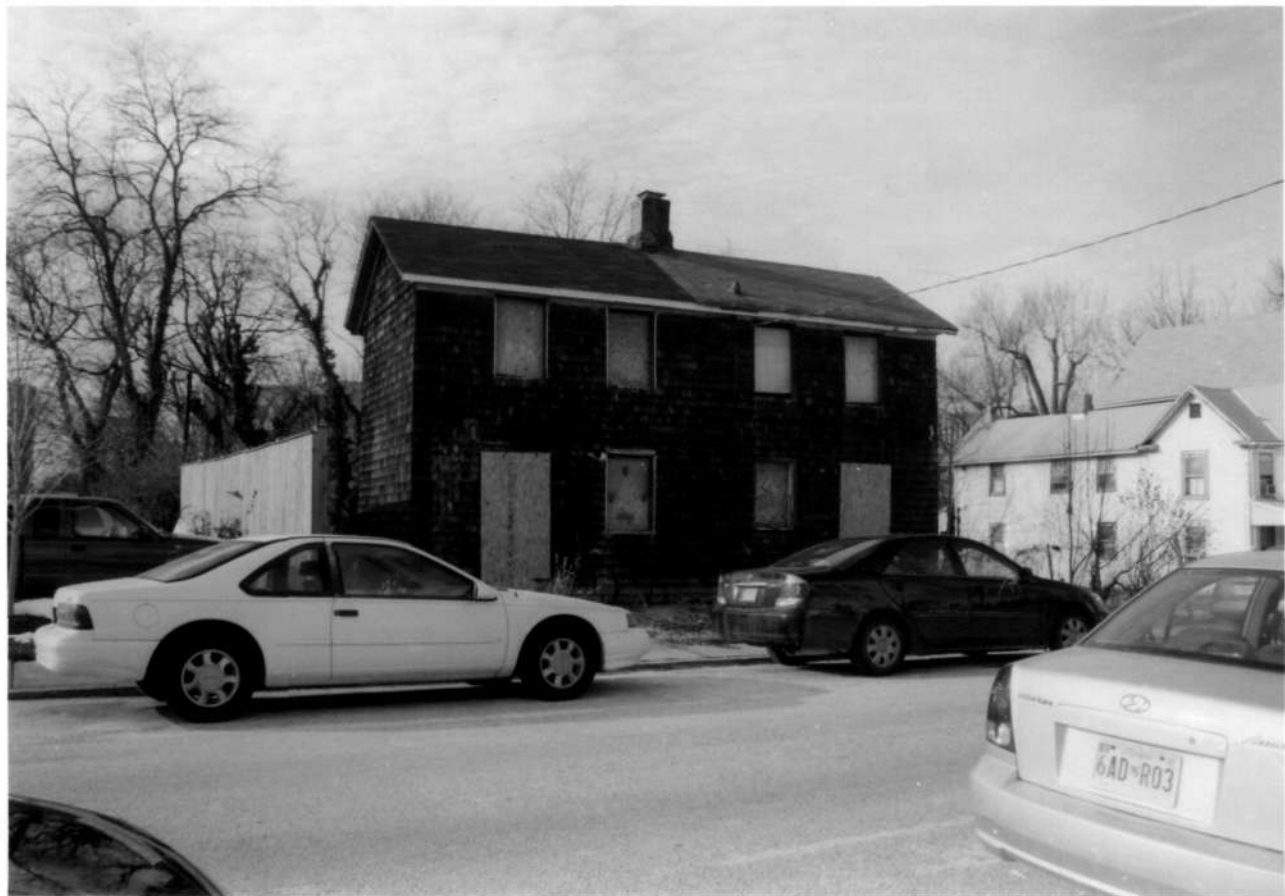
Baltimore County Office of Planning

12/2009

MD SHPO

Eastern Elevation, looking west

#4 of 10



RTZ NO. 000000000000 0 0000

BA-1039

Comes House

407-409 Jefferson Avenue, Towson

Baltimore County, MD

Baltimore County Office of Planning

12/2009

MD SHPO

Eastern elevation, looking west

5 of 10



217 NO BANNING ANN A 2024

BA-1039

Tom's House

407-409 Jefferson Avenue, Towson

Baltimore County, MD

Baltimore County Office of Planning

12/2009

MD SHPO

Northwest corner, looking east

6 of 10



222

(HZZ'PH)

2700 1 1111 11111111 01 210

BA-1039
TOMES HOUSE
407-409 JEFFERSON AVENUE, TOWSON
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
BALTIMORE COUNTY OFFICE OF PLANNING
12/2009
MD SHPO
INTERIOR, WESTERN STAIRCASE
7 OF 10



033

(No. 248)

PT 17 NO. 248 (NO. 248) ON 210

BA-1039

TOMES HOUSE

407-409 Jefferson Avenue, Towson

Baltimore County, MD

Baltimore County Office of Planning

12/30/09

MD SHPO

Interior, north end side, looking south

8 of 10



PTZ HQ MORNING NEWS 11 11 11

BA-1039

COMES HOUSE

407-409 Jefferson Avenue, Towson

Baltimore County, MD

Baltimore County Office of Planning

12/2009

MD SHPO

Interior, southern side looking north

9 of 10



PTZ NO. BANXAND NNN 19 0044

BA-1039

Tombs House

407-409 Jefferson Avenue, Towson

Baltimore County, Maryland

Baltimore County Office of Planning

12/2009

MD SHPO

Western Elevation, looking east

10 of 10

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA- 1039

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic

other Tomes House

2. Location

street and number 407-409 Jefferson Avenue not for publication

city, town Baltimore vicinity

county Baltimore County

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Ella Tomes Diggs

street and number P.O. Box 515 telephone Not Available

city, town Owings Mills state MD zip code 21117-0515

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber 5936 folio 356

city, town Towson tax map 70A tax parcel 123 tax ID number 920550120

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	1
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	1
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			1

7. Description

Inventory No. BA- 1039

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Constructed circa 1880, the vernacular twin dwelling is located on a grassy lot at 407-409 Jefferson Avenue. Set on a random rubble stone foundation, the building rises two stories in height and is four bays in width. Built as a twin dwelling, each house is two bays wide presenting a continuous façade. However, the twin dwelling is visually separated by different cladding materials, with vinyl siding on the southern half and asbestos shingles on the northern half. Both the south and the north dwellings feature a single-leaf, panel-and-light door with a 1/1 vinyl replacement window at the first story. Likewise, each has two 1/1 vinyl replacement windows at the second story with square-edged surrounds. The southern dwelling has a front-gabled portico that was rebuilt with replacement metal supports and a metal balustrade. The northern half features a one-story, three-bay wide front porch with a shed roof and square post supports. The dwellings are united under a side gable roof with asphalt shingles and share the central interior brick chimney.

8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-1039

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Specific dates 1880 ca. **Architect/Builder** Unknown

Construction dates 1880 ca.

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The twin dwelling, constructed circa 1880, is located at 407-409 Jefferson Avenue in East Towson. East Towson is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history, specifically the pre-Civil War development of an African-American neighborhood in a predominately white community. The history of this property dates from the purchase of one-and-a-quarter acres of land by Daniel Harris in September 1853. This is believed to be the first documented African-American landholding in Towson, and is among the oldest such ethnic enclave in Baltimore County. Further, manumitted slaves and/or descendents of former slaves, many of who were owned by Charles Ridgely, populated the neighborhood. Hampered by the low economic status of the residents, development in the 19th century was slow, increasing after the turn of the 20th century. The setting of the property, building styles, and construction materials were guided by the limited economic status of the residents and their desire to establish a neighborhood of their own without the assistance of white architects, builders, and craftsmen. By 1927, the community was ninety-five percent improved with single-family dwellings, social buildings, a school, and religious structures. Many of the current homeowners and tenants living in the neighborhood are descendents of the first African-American residents.

East Towson as a whole is representative of an important phase of architectural development in Baltimore County, illustrating the dilution of popular architectural styles to more efficiently meet the needs of the neighborhood, and the builders' untrained abilities to execute the fashionable ornamentation. Several of the freestanding structures in East Towson are twin dwellings, surreptitiously providing multiple-family housing on narrow rectangular building lots typically occupied by single-family houses. Thus, East Towson provided lower cost housing in a more suburban neighborhood, rather than the urban setting their economic status typically perpetuated.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA- 1039

Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.

Baltimore County Historic Inventory.

Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. *A History of Baltimore County.* Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.

Map of Baltimore County. Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.

Scharf, J. Thomas. *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men.* Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.

Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys.* Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property .10 Acre

Acreage of historical setting Unknown

Quadrangle name Towson

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The twin dwelling is located at 407-409 Jefferson Avenue in East Town in the Ninth District of Baltimore County. It has historically been associated with Tax Map 70A, Parcels 123 and 429 since its construction circa 1880.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	R. Weidlich, K. Baynard, and J. Bunting, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Traceries, Incorporated	date	November 1, 2001
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

East Towson: Planimetric Data



BA #:1039
Name: Twin Dwelling, 407-409 Jefferson Avenue
East Towson
Baltimore County



Prepared by:
Baltimore County Office of Planning
401 Bosley Avenue
Towson, Maryland 21204
June, 2001



Scale

1 inch = 200 feet

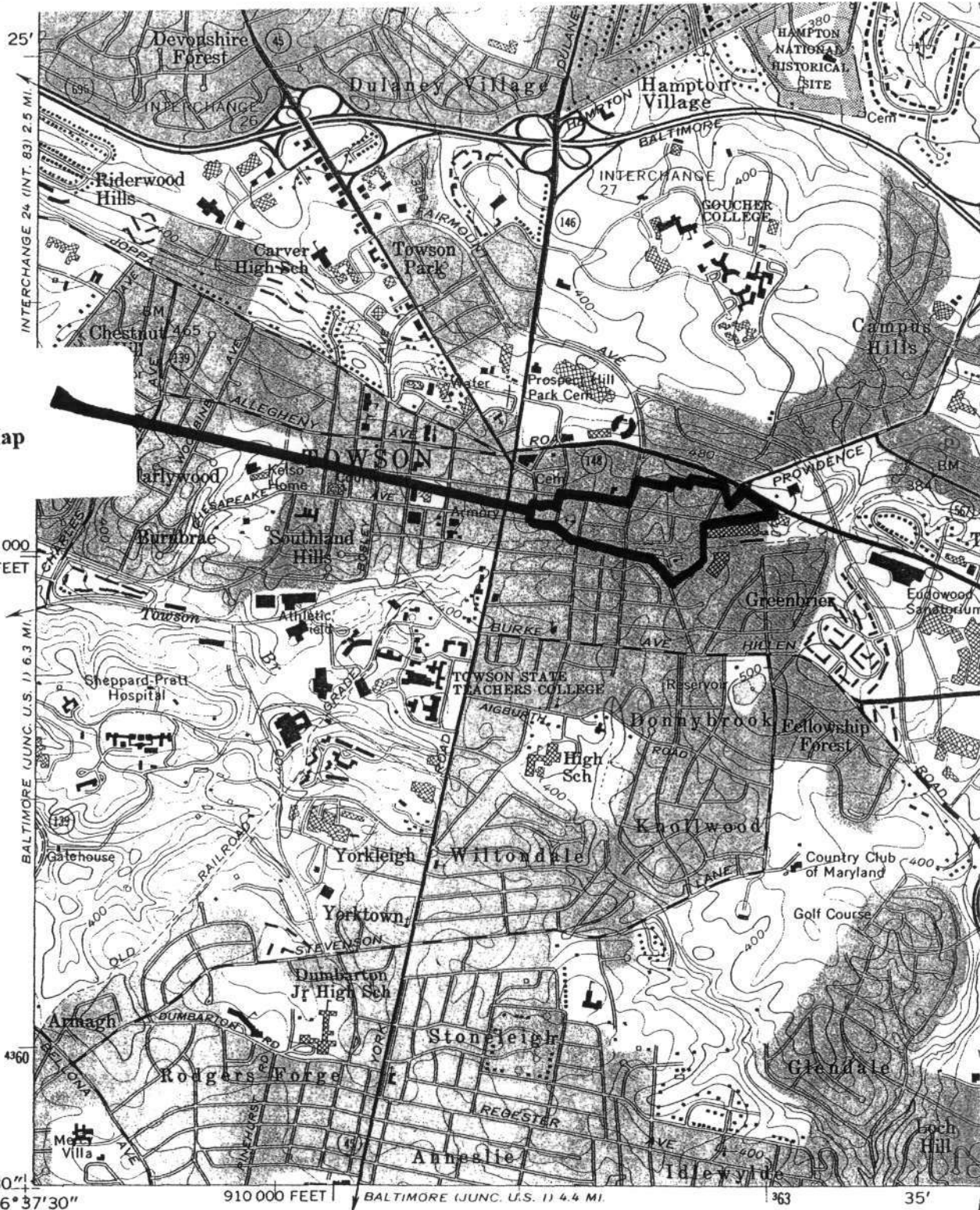
1:2400

100 0 100 200 Feet

Legend

- | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Paved Roads | Study Area Boundary | Hydrographic Features |
| Unpaved Roads | Buildings | |
| Paved Parking / Driveways | Vegetation | |

Data Sources:
Planimetric Data: Baltimore County OIT GIS Services Unit (1:2400)
Parcel Boundaries: Baltimore County OIT GIS Services Unit (1:2400)
Study Area: Baltimore County Office of Planning (1:2400)
Coordinate System:
Maryland State Plane: NAD83/91 Horizontal Datum
Elevations in Feet: NAVD88 Vertical Datum
Date of Data Capture: March 1996
Scale of Data Capture: 1" = 100'



BA-1039

East Towson
Towson, Maryland
Towson USGS Quad Map
Baltimore County

(BALTIMORE WEST)
5662 / SW

Mapped by the Army Map Service
Edited and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, USCE, and Maryland
Bureau of Control Surveys and Maps

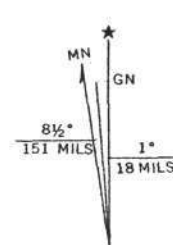
Culture and drainage in part compiled from aerial photographs
taken 1943. Topography by planetable surveys 1944
Culture revised by the Geological Survey 1957

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Maryland coordinate system
1000-metre Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 18, shown in blue

Red tint indicates areas in which only
landmark buildings are shown

Revisions shown in purple compiled by the Geological Survey from
aerial photographs taken 1966 and 1974. This information not
field checked

Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



UTM GRID AND 1974 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



BA-1039

407-409 JEFFERSON AVENUE

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

EHT TRACERIES

10/2001

MD SHPO

EAST ELEVATION LOOKING NORTHWEST

1 OF 3



BA-1039

407-409 JEFFERSON AVENUE

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

EHT TRACERIES

10/2001

MD SHPO

NORTHEAST CORNER LOOKING SOUTHWEST

2 OF 3



BA-1039

407-409 JEFFERSON AVENUE

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

EHT TRACERIES

10/2001

MD SHPO

SOUTH ELEVATION LOOKING NORTH

3 OF 3

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

THE TOMES HOUSE

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

407-409 Jefferson Ave.

second

CITY, TOWN

Towson Md.

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Baltimore

STATE

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☐ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

James Tomes

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

407 Jefferson Ave

CITY, TOWN

Towson Md. 21204

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Baltimore County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #: 1521/73

STREET & NUMBER

401 Bosley Ave.

CITY, TOWN

Towson Md. 21204

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

BA-1039 - 407 - 409 Jefferson

before 1877

Each part of this duplex consists of a front room containing a fireplace and stair, followed by a kitchen. A small front porch appears on the facade of each apartment in this two-story frame house.

7 DESCRIPTION

BA-1039

CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED
☐ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☐ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

407-409 Jefferson

This two-story frame duplex could be the house shown on H. Aults's property as early as 1877. The house has a gable roof running north-south, parallel to the street. A two-story shed-roofed addition covers the west wall, and various later additions followed. The asbestos shingled house originally had wooden shingles. It is situated over a stone cellar, whose exterior entrance is located on the south.

On the facade, which is separated from the street by neat hedges and tiny front yards, two 6/6 windows light the second floor of each duplex and a door and window open into each first floor. 407 has a gable-roofed porch sheltering the door, while 409 has a shed-roofed balustraded porch supported by simple square posts, covering both front bays. Both the interior and exterior moldings are composed of simple flat boards with beaded edges. A central chimney heats both apartments.

Each house consists of one main room, with the fireplace and winding corner stair located on the shared partition. The mantelpiece in 409 features shelf supports displaying prominent beads and Greek ovolo and ogee moldings. The mantelpiece face displays a bead on either side of two concave cavettoes. The pilasters have chamfered edges and gougework centers.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

BA-1039

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Early records indicate that Henry Alt owned the property in 1861. The property (house) was sold to George and Margaret Davage(1899). George Davage died around 1915, at which time Margaret Davage received title to the property. Later (May 1920) Margaret Davage titled the property in the name of herself and her husband Joseph Moore. Margaret and Joseph Moore continued to reside in the house until 1946, when they sold the property to James E. Tones. James Tones has owned the property since that time.

Land records indicate that this structure was constructed as early as 1861 (map of 1877 indicates the existence of the property). This dwelling represents one of the oldest buildings in the E. Towson community.

Baltimore County Dept. of Land Records Liber Folio
GHC 33-50
525-578
1521-73

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marcus Pollock/coordinator Merry Stinson/architect 7/77

ORGANIZATION

Committee to Save E. Towson/Towson Ymca

DATE

823-8870

STREET & NUMBER

600 W. Chesapeake Ave.

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

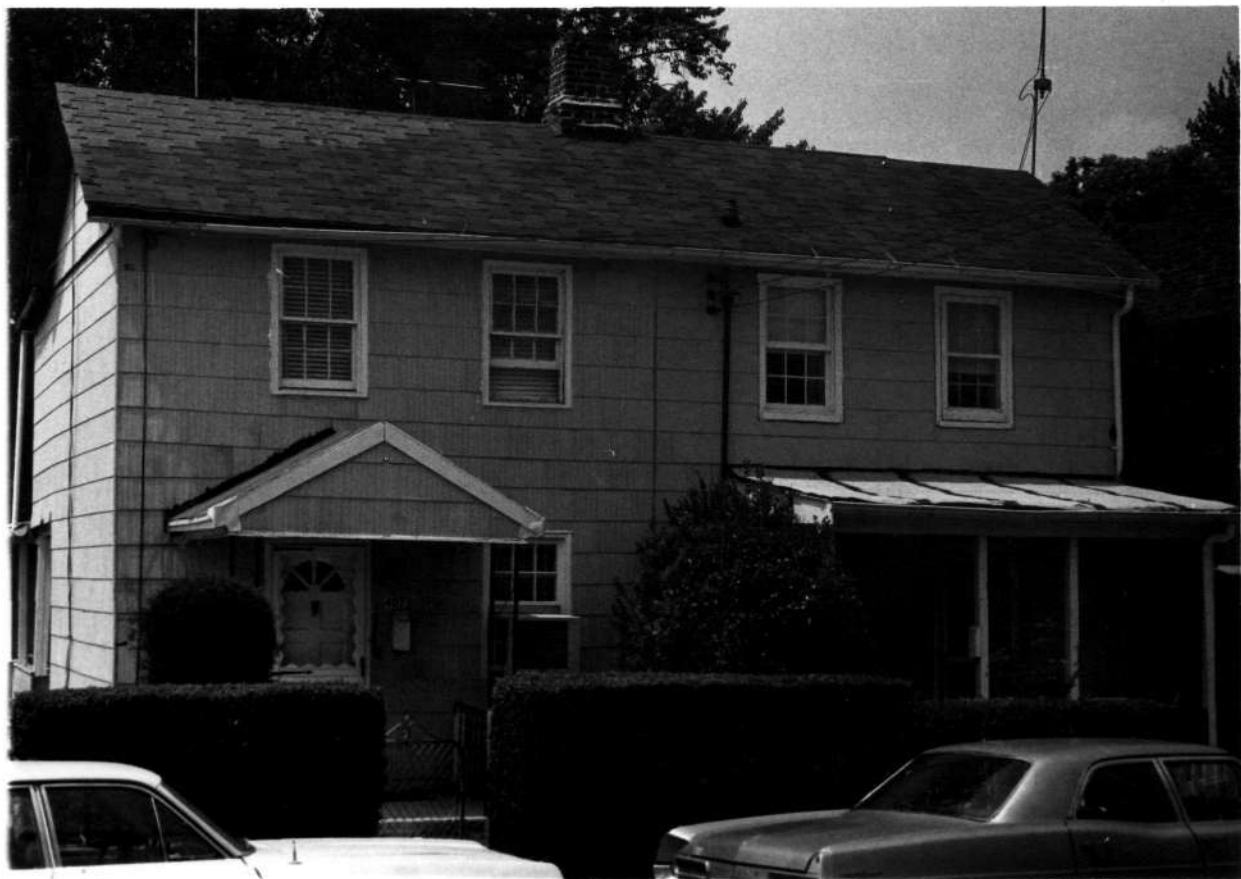
Towson Md. 21204

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



BA-1039

James House

407/409 Jefferson Ave.

Towson, Md.

east

Merry Stinson

1977